

**MINUTES
SCOTT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 7, 2025**

(1) Convene County Board

The Board of Commissioners, in and for the County of Scott, Minnesota, met in the County Board Room in the City of Shakopee, Minnesota, and convened at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Commissioner Weckman Brekke, Commissioner Wolf, Commissioner Brennan, Commissioner Beer, and Commissioner Ulrich. Commissioner Weckman Brekke presided.

The following were also in attendance:

1. Lezlie Vermillion, County Administrator
2. Ron Hocevar, County Attorney
3. Luke Hennen, County Sheriff
4. Danny Lenz, Deputy County Administrator/CFO
5. Suzanne Arntson, Deputy HHS Director
6. Tracy Cervenka, Business Operations Manager
7. Barb Dahl, Health and Human Services Director
8. Brad Davis, Planning and Resource Management Director
9. Lisa Freese, Transportation Services Director
10. Cindy Geis, Community Services Director
11. Rhonda Otto, Deputy Auditor/Treasurer
12. Dr. Tawnya Ward, Behavioral Health and Housing Director
13. Angelica Contreras, Administrative Specialist
14. Nikki Hallberg, Child and Family Services Director
15. Scott Haas, Sheriff's Captain
16. Lisa Kohner, Public Affairs Coordinator
17. Alissa Menke, Therapist
18. Jeff Wyman, Principal Business Analyst
19. Lisa Hawkins, Principal Tax Specialist
20. Steven Lorenzen, Infrastructure Enterprise Architect
21. Scott Hed, Accounting Manager
22. Andrea Kunzer, Solutions Enterprise Architect
23. Crystal Perz-Delgado, Senior Administrative Specialist
24. Natalie Bogdan, Therapist
25. Betty Ortiz, Customer Service Specialist
26. Michelle Hesse, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Guests:

1. Pam Altendorf, Goodhue County
2. Natalie Barnes, Scott County
3. Anna Brekke
4. Bob Brennan, Scott County
5. Perry Brennan, Scott County
6. Greg Buck, Minnesota Election Integrity Solutions
7. LeRoy Clausen, Scott County
8. Lori Clausen, Scott County
9. Shannon Davis, Scott County
10. Jay Duggan, Lydia
11. Lisa Jansa, Dakota County
12. Terri Jaskowick, Scott County

13. Al Kranz, Burnsville
14. Jesse Lara, City of Shakopee
15. Anita Lilienthal, Scott County
16. Gary Lilienthal, Scott County
17. Karin Miller, Dakota County
18. Nick Morgel, JP Morgan
19. Carol Mulvihill, Dakota County
20. Don Regnier, Scott County
21. Karen Sandback, Scott County
22. Del Scherle, Scott County
23. Julie Scherle, Scott County
24. Lynn Spieker, Scott County
25. Sharon Sykora, Scott County

(2) Swearing-In Ceremony

- 2.1 Commissioner Jody Brennan
Judge Lennon performed the swearing in of Commissioner Jody Brennan.
- 2.2 Commissioner Barb Weckman Brekke
Judge Lennon performed the swearing in of Commissioner Barb Weckman Brekke.

(3) Reorganization for 2025

- 3.1 Nominations for and Election of Chair for 2025
Commissioner Wolf moved, seconded by Commissioner Ulrich to nominate Commissioner Beer as Chair of the Board for 2025. After three calls for additional nominations, the motion carried unanimously.
- 3.2 Nominations for and Election of Vice Chair for 2025
Commissioner Weckman Brekke moved, seconded by Commissioner Wolf to nominate Commissioner Ulrich as Vice Chair of the Board for 2025. After three calls for additional nominations, the motion carried unanimously.

(4) AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the Agenda.

(5) APPROVE MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Brennan, seconded by Commissioner Ulrich, the December 17, 2024 minutes were approved unanimously.

(6) New Employees

- 6.1 New Employees
The following new employees introduced themselves and were welcomed to Scott County:
 - Alissa Menke, Therapist
 - Jeff Wyman, Principal Business Analyst
 - Lisa Hawkins, Principal Tax Specialist
 - Steven Lorenzen, Infrastructure Enterprise Architect
 - Scott Hed, Accounting Manager
 - Andrea Kunzer, Solutions Enterprise Architect
 - Crystal Perz-Delgado, Senior Administrative Specialist
 - Natalie Bogdan, Therapist
 - Beatriz (Betty) Ortiz, Customer Service Specialist

(7) RECOGNITION OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Commissioner Beer prefaced the Recognition of Interested Citizens regarding the 2024 Scott County District 54A House Race

- We follow every process protocol and statute handed down from the state and feds as it relates to our elections laws.
- The County is the consolidator of election results collected both at the county facilities as well as sites hosted and operated by cities and City staff before they are uploaded to the Secretary of State election site to be reported.
- Following protocols, County election staff, discovered the 20 missing ballots collected by city staff at the city of Shakopee's early voting location at the city hall, all of which belonged to Precinct 10.
- There have been calls for the firing and discipline of County election staff, who were the ones, along with County Attorney's office staff, who found and investigated the city issue.
- The person most responsible for this issue is no longer employed by the city.
- Minnesota Statute 204C.33 states that elections must be canvassed, meaning that voter abstracts, which are vote totals by Precinct and contain the number of ballots that went through the tabulators only, are signed off on. Commissioner Beer served on both canvassing boards, the original as well as the meeting convened after the hand recount.
- Canvassing identifies anomalies such as the missing ballots in the 54A House race.
- A duplicate voter report is run after every election and no duplicate voters were found.
- After every election, a number of precincts are randomly pulled out of a hat to be subject to a hand count to audit and verify the results.

Natalie Barnes, 15630 Fish Point Road, Prior Lake

Ms. Barnes submitted a resolution calling for a 3rd party audit of the 2024 election in Scott County district 54A. The resolution is added to the public record. She stated that she does not trust the process and expressed concern regarding Scott County organizational structure and accountability. Ms. Barnes cited federal and state violations.

Sharon Sykora, 670 Hahn Drive, Shakopee

Ms. Sykora is president of Voices Advancing Freedom, a Republican precinct officer, and a head election judge in Louisville Township. Based upon missing ballots, she called for another audit and another election in Scott County district 54A. She expressed a desire to identify gaps in the process and find ways to prevent this from happening again to restore confidence in elections.

Al Kranz, 10704 Cambridge Court, Burnsville

Mr. Kranz spoke on behalf of his daughter who is a New Market Township resident. He stated that the discovery of duplicate ballots combined with missing ballots have caused a lack of confidence in the election results and believes a new election is needed.

Greg Buck, Washington County

Mr. Buck is co-founder of Minnesota Election Integrity Solutions. Mr. Buck provided the Board with examples of SVRS data (which is not being published pursuant to Minn. Stat. Sec. 201.091) and discussed his concerns with internal control problems surrounding the accumulation and reporting of election results, and suggested the State Legislative Auditor conduct an audit.

Karin Miller, 17985 Jacquard Path, Lakeville

Ms. Miller stated that there were too many anomalies in the 54A elections such as changes in the counts throughout election night and missing/duplicate ballots to trust the election outcome. She encouraged an investigation for all of Scott County. She added that the numbers have changed following Scott County submitting its office numbers on which in violation of state statute. Ms. Miller encouraged the Board to conduct a full independent audit and a new election.

Jay Duggan, Hennepin County

Mr. Duggan questioned the organizational structure for the accountability of staff and County Auditor to the County Board. He speculated whether there could be more than 20 destroyed ballots and called for reassurances for process correction, rather than excuses.

Commissioner Beer stated that we all want this right and he suggested that a workshop, which is an official, open meeting, may be the right setting for a discussion. There is not opposition to an audit.

Commissioner Ulrich added that the Board is not in opposition of what was said at this meeting. He agreed that a workshop would allow the Board to gather questions, engage in dialogue, and determine the next step.

Lisa Jansa, Dakota County

Ms. Jansa stated that she has observed irregularities in two recent election cycles and noted that election integrity is being questioned. She asked the Board to allow for transparency which is what voters desire.

(8) CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Approve the 2025 County Board Meeting Schedule

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously.

8.2 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-03; Adopting the 2025 Scott County Board of Commissioners Operating Rules and Guidelines

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

8.3 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-04; Appointing Commissioners and Other County Officials to Boards and Committees for 2025

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

8.4 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-05; Designating The Minnesota Star Tribune as the County's Official Qualified Newspaper for 2025 and Authorizing Entering into a 3-Year Contract

Commissioner Wolf noted that with limited local newspapers, a better solution to publication, such as the internet, needs to be explored.

Commissioner Weckman Brekke added that Star Tribune subscriptions and circulation in the county are significantly more than the New Prague Times.

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

8.5 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-06; Authorizing the Use of the County's Website as an Alternative Method to the Official Newspaper to Solicit Bids, Requests for Information, and Requests for Proposals for Transportation Projects

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is

made a part of this record by reference.

- 8.6 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-07; Approving the Preliminary Plat and Final Plat of Sandhill Meadow Plat (Thomas Anderson, Applicant and Ryan Shimek Property Owner)
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.7 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-08; Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Lease Space for Rural Industrial Business (Vitaliy Tereshkov, Applicant and Vital Realty, Property Owner)
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.8 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-09; Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Operate a Tree & Landscape Contractor Yard and Lease Space to Other Industrial Uses (Hawks Property, LLC., Applicant and Gladys Lindstrom Trust, Property Owner)
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.9 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-10; Authorizing Entering a Contract with Motorola Solutions for Radio Maintenance
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.10 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-11; Authorizing Entering into an Updated Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Agreement
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.11 Adopt Resolution No. 2025-12; Authorizing Scott County's Continued Joint Participation With Carver County in the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) for 2025-2027
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.
- 8.12 Approve the 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Shakopee Lions Club in Jackson Township
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously.
- 8.13 Approve a New Application for a Scott County Wine License for an Establishment in Cedar Lake Township for 2025
Motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan. The motion carried unanimously.
- 8.14 Approve Payroll Processing of Personnel Actions
On the recommendation of the County Administrator, Commissioner Wolf moved, seconded by Commissioner Brennan to approve the payroll processing of personnel actions indicated below and certified by the Employee Relations Director and the Appointing Authority to be in compliance with provisions of Minnesota Statutes 375.56 - 375.71 and the Scott County Merit Personnel System:
1. Separation of employment for Michael Glassberg, Intermittent (34% FTE) Sheriff Deputy - Unclassified, County Sheriff's Office, effective 12/5/2024.
 2. Separation of employment for Daniel Wlehl, FT Probationary Corrections Officer, County Sheriff's Office, effective 12/10/2024.
 3. Separation of employment for Robert Mallery, Intermittent (34% FTE) Corrections Officer -

Unclassified, County Sheriff's Office, effective 12/11/2024.

4. Separation of employment for Juthika Purani, PT (50% FTE) Library Associate, Transformation and Enterprise Services Division, effective 1/4/2025.
5. FT Probationary employment of Beatriz Ortiz, Customer Service Specialist, Community Services Division, effective 12/30/2024.
6. Promotion for Nikki Hallberg, FT Social Work Supervisor to FT Probationary Child and Family Services Director, effective 12/9/2024.
7. Promotion for Heidi Rademacher, FT Business Information System Specialist to Community Corrections Supervisor, Health and Human Services Division, effective 12/9/2024.
8. Promotion for Jennifer Schwarz, FT Administrative Services Director to FT Probationary Economic Assistance Director, Health and Human Services Division, effective 12/16/2024.
9. Promotion for Katherine Rademacher, FT Field Probation Officer to FT Probationary Evidence Based Practices Coordinator, Health and Human Services Division, effective 12/16/2024.

The motion carried unanimously.

(9) COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMISSIONER UPDATES

- Commissioners Beer, Brennan, and Weckman Brekke attended the Shakopee Treehouse Ribbon Cutting on December 18.
- Commissioners Beer and Wolf attended the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) Board meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Beer testified as an Election Witness for District 54A on December 19.
- Commissioners Beer and Weckman Brekke met on January 6.
- Commissioners Beer and Ulrich met with Senator Eric Pratt on January 7.
- Commissioners Beer and Weckman Brekke met with new employees on January 7.
- Commissioners Brennan attended the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Board meeting on December 17.
- Commissioner Brennan attended the Proact Christmas event on December 18.
- Commissioner Brennan and Ulrich attended the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) Board meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Brennan met with Community Development Agency (CDA) Director Julie Siegert on December 19.
- Commissioner Brennan met with Savage and Shakopee Representatives on December 20.
- Commissioner Ulrich attended the Metropolitan Council Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Ulrich attended the Regional Solicitation Evaluation Policy Workshop meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke met with the County Administrator on December 18.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) Human Services & Education Committee meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the Scott County Community Corrections Advisory Board meeting on December 19.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the Belle Plaine Mayor and City Council Orientation lunch on December 19.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke, along with the County Administrator and Sheriff, met with the St. Francis Hospital President and Medical Director on January 2.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the Scott County Association For Leadership & Efficiency (SCALE) Executive Committee meeting on January 3.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the Child Protection Task Force Planning meeting on January 6.
- Commissioner Weckman Brekke attended the Shakopee High School Health and Human Services Academies Industry Council meeting on January 7.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Credit River City Council meeting on December 18.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Elko New Market City Council meeting on December 19.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Prior Lake City Council meeting on December 20.

- Commissioner Wolf met with Representative Koznick on December 23.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Sand Creek Town Board meeting on January 2.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Credit River City Council meeting on January 6.
- Commissioner Wolf attended the Cedar Lake Town Board meeting on January 6.

(10) COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

County Administrator Lezlie Vermillion had no additional information to report.

(11) RECESS FOR ATTORNEY/CLIENT MEETING

There was no need to recess for an attorney/client meeting.

(12) ADJOURN

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Brennan, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

County Board Chair

**Clerk to the Board/County
Administrator**

Deputy Clerk to the Board